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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1954.

Price 20 Cents

THE WEATHER: Moderate or fresh Easterly winds. Cloudy, with fair periods this afternoon.

CHINA MAIL
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Tuesday, December 28, 1954
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COMMENT OF THE DAY

The Dictator's Dilemma

SINCE the middle of 1950 when Marshal Tito investigated a policy of relaxation of the rigid Soviet-type Communist policy confirmed and perfected in Yugoslavia in the days of its alliance with Russia, Western observers have been eagerly discussing the limits to which the State is prepared to go in what may be termed the "democratisation" process. In the last three and a half years the Tito regime has undertaken a number of fundamental reforms, the most notable of which is the decentralisation of the rigid, over-centralised top-heavy State-controlled economy which entailed denationalisation of a number of industries and the dissolution of unprofitable collective farms. Government spokesmen now lay so much stress on initiative and enterprise and even the profit motive that the latest Government statements bear an unmistakable resemblance to a Tory election manifesto! In fact, Tito has embarked on an extensive programme of "desovietisation" of his country. And this, coupled with his desire to build national Socialism within the country, was rather the primary motive for the reforms instituted in recent years. Naturally, however, any trend away from the rigid Stalinist system involves the introduction of personal, economic and even political freedom and this is certainly obvious in Yugoslavia's case and no attempt has been made to disguise it.

ESSENTIALLY Tito's expressed aim is to mould the Yugoslav people into a single nation, to bring all the different national groups within the country to the standard of living enjoyed by the most prosperous—in this case the Slovaks. But Tito must now be aware that every step he takes away from doctrinal rigidity is bound to weaken the Party and therefore to weaken the authority of a regime which is still primarily based on it. That is his dilemma. He is opposed in his reforms by the old orthodox group who view with dismay the consequent—and perhaps logical—"Americanisation" of the country following their leader's acceptance of dollar aid. He is also opposed by a "liberal faction" who feel his reforms do not go far enough. This week, Milovan Djilas, a fervent liberal who was dismissed from all official posts in January this year following his heretical attack on Yugoslavia's one-party system, again criticised the inflexibility of the regime and urged the creation of a new Socialist party and a two-party system. Brave words by Mr Djilas but undoubtedly they were calculated to test official reaction. A rebuke by Tito is, in itself, of little significance to the Liberals. The importance lies in whether Tito decides to silence or ignore this fearless advocate of something very close to Western-style democracy. For if the Dictator chooses to ignore him, it will be a sign of tolerance that will certainly be interpreted to mean that further relaxations in Government policy are now possible. It will also be interpreted as a sign of Marshal Tito's growing confidence in the country's progress towards national unity. Whatever the Marshal's views may be, however, one thing is certain: that, although he has frequently been urged by Western socialists to adopt a more liberal system, he is today essentially the same individual who, in 1948, renounced his country's ties with the Cominform. He will, in short, not be budged, by friend or foe, but will act at the time he considers most appropriate for the good of his country.

MR FRANCE OVER ONE HURDLE

But Still Another To Go GERMAN ENTRY INTO NATO APPROVED BY 38 MAJORITY

Paris, Dec. 28. The French Assembly approved German entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation last night but early today the National Assembly forced the Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France, to demand at least one more confidence vote on the actual rearmament of West Germany and ultimate success is still in doubt.

Shortly after M. Mendes-France won a confidence vote on Germany entering NATO, the powerful Foreign Affairs Committee voted to recommend rejection of the Western European Union, under which Germany would be granted limited and controlled arms.

The vote was 20 to 19 with four abstentions. M. Mendes-France immediately announced he would demand a confidence vote on German rearmament alone at 4 p.m. Wednesday (1500 GMT). He said the government would draft a whole new ratification bill, leaving out WEU, in an effort to get around procedural difficulties.

Details of the new bill were not disclosed, but M. Mendes-France made it clear to the Assembly that it would call for ratification of German rearmament and that would not include the once-defeated article outlining West European Union.

Last night the Assembly voted 280 to 251 in approving German entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The vote was hailed as a great victory for M. Mendes-France, who had staked the life of his Government on it.

M. Mendes-France, pale and obviously tired, made a moving appeal to the Assembly just before the first vote of confidence last night when he stressed that the future of France was in the balance.

He said bluntly he knew of no alternative to the Paris agreements. New meetings with Britain and the United States on this subject were no longer possible.

REDUCED TO ZERO.

If the Paris agreements were rejected, "our credit with the United States and Great Britain will be reduced to zero. In Russia it will be little more than what we have broken with our allies."

He added: "A refusal would mean launching France on an adventure which would be murderous for the country and its security."

His strong speech secured him the majority of 38 votes.

M. Mendes-France had intended to have another vote of confidence after his first success. But he withdrew it after the authors of two anti-Government motions aimed at holding up the application of the agreements—one they were ratified were withdrawn.

TACTICAL DEFEAT.

This move was a tactical defeat for the Government's chief opponents, the Popular Republicans led by the former Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, who was mainly responsible for the rejection of German rearmament on Friday.

The Assembly's vote in favour of admitting Germany to NATO seems almost certain to be followed by another reversing of its Christian Eve verdict against rearming Germany in the Western European Union.

But if the Assembly maintains its ban on German rearmament the entire "package" of the

Paris agreements in Western defence, which are practically indivisible, would fall to the ground. Rejection of German rearmament would thus annul the admission of Germany to NATO and the Franco-German agreement on the Saar.

Even if the Assembly completes ratification by the middle of this week the agreement can have no immediate effect as they must still be endorsed by the West German Parliament and the French Senate.

FORMAL MAJORITY.

But if the Senate rejects the Paris and Saar agreements the Assembly needs only pass another formal majority vote to give them force of law. The Senate may not, however, vote on them, perhaps for several months.

Until the French and German Parliaments complete these formalities and exchange instruments of ratification, Germany's military contribution to Western defence and its effect on the Atlantic Allies would not become operative.

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KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m. At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

TO-DAY



KING'S PRINCESS

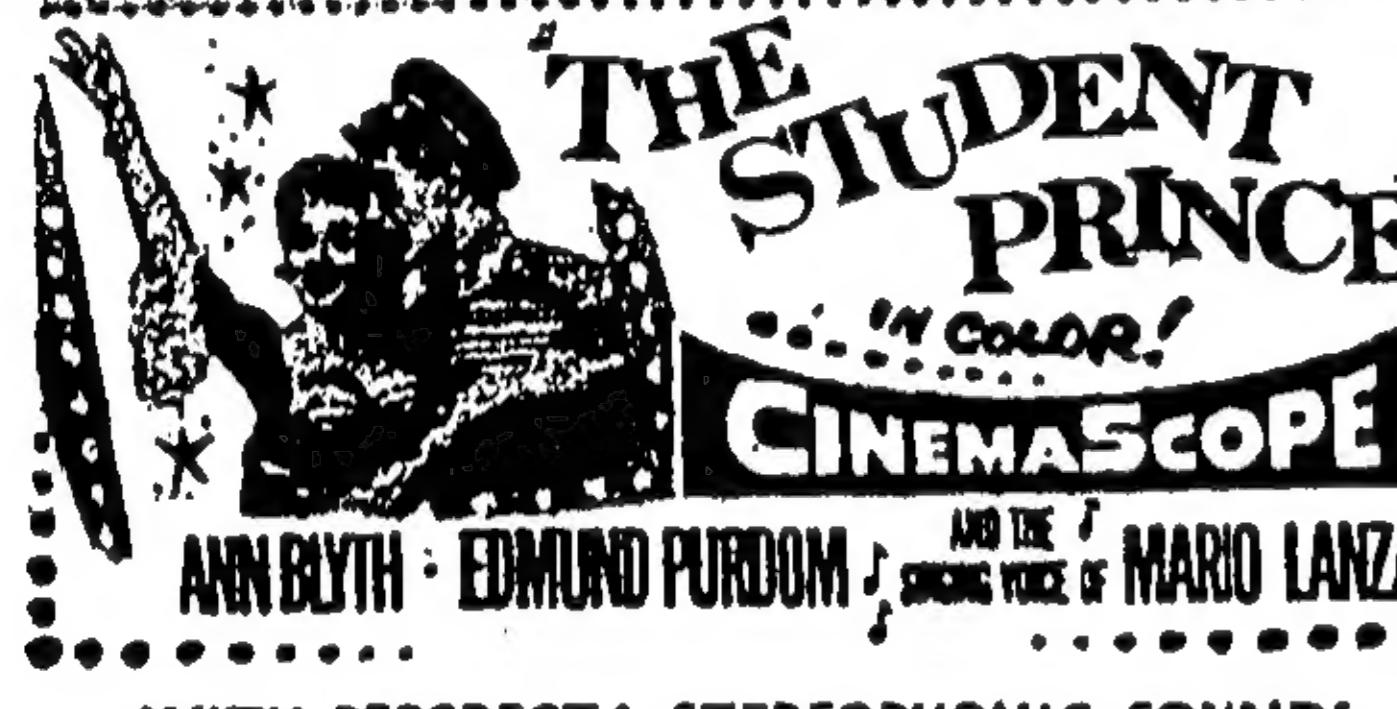
★ NEXT CHANGE ★



CAPITOL LIBERTY

4 SHOWS TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

M-G-M'S SUMPTUOUS SONG-AND-SABRE MUSICAL



WITH PERSPECTA STEREOFONIC SOUND!

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SHOWING TO-DAY

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



ALEXANDRE DUMAS



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ROXY & BROADWAY

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

Owing to length of picture please note change of times:

At 2.30, 5.10, 7.30 & 9.40 p.m.

ADDED ATTRACTION! CINEMASCOPE Short Subject
"FLYING TO FISH" in Technicolor.

AID FOR YUGOSLAVIA

Britain Decides
To Join
New Programme

Belgrade, Dec. 27.

Britain has reversed her decision announced in June not to join any aid programme for Yugoslavia for the year ending June 30, 1955, according to an announcement by a Vice-President, Lieutenant-General Svetozar Vukmanovic.

He said Britain would give £2 million this year and the United States would provide \$40 million (£14 million) as well as at least 850,000 tons of wheat to offset Yugoslavia's worst harvest since the first world war.

According to a usually reliable source here, Britain promised several months ago to alter her June decision and to continue aid if Yugoslavia and Italy settled their dispute over Trieste.



Attractive 24-year-old Irmgard Margaretha Schmidt who was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for spying for Russia by a U.S. High Commission Court in Berlin.—Express Photo.

FRANCE MAY
BUILD OWN
ATOM BOMBSParis, Dec. 27.
France is considering the possibility of building her own atomic bombs, authoritative sources said today.

It was disclosed that an exchange of views on warlike use of nuclear energy was held during a Cabinet meeting last night.

No decision was reached, it was said.

MINISTERS' FEELINGS
Many Ministers were described as feeling there had been no need shown yet for France to have her own A-weapons.

They felt it would be more profitable to concentrate on peaceful use of nuclear energy. A European Foundation is being set up in Switzerland for this, with French membership.

But others, it was authoritatively reported after the closed session, were mindful of the possible loss of French prestige in the international field irrespective whether the reluctant Chamber of Deputies finally shoved through German rearmament.

These Ministers saw in the manufacture of atomic weapons a chance for France to increase her weight in Big Power meetings, according to the sources.

Allies Could
Have Won
Korean WarWashington, Dec. 27.
Printed copies of testimony by the retired American General Edward Almond that the Allies missed two chances to win the Korean war were made available for public distribution today by the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee.

According to the testimony taken at a public hearing before the Sub-Committee on November 23, General Almond, who commanded the Inchon landing during the Korean war and served as Chief of Staff under General Douglas MacArthur, said that he believed that the war could have been won first in November 1950, had the United Nations forces been permitted to bomb the Chinese Communists across the Yalu river.

The second chance was lost, he said, in June 1951, when General James Van Fleet received orders to hold the advance of General Almond.—Associated Press.

LESS OPIUM
FOUND IN
SINGAPORE

CONFERENCE SUGGESTED

The Vice-President suggested that a conference should be held of Yugoslavia's creditors to convert medium-term loans into long-term ones. The United States should provide a long-term credit to cover Yugoslavia's short-term loans.

Tanjung, the Yugoslav News Agency, quoted General Vukmanovic as saying that Yugoslavia's heavy defence efforts and her efforts to balance her external accounts decided the Governments of the United States, Britain and France to continue aid.

THE MAJOR PART OF THE DRUG

Customs authorities have seized nearly 3,000 pounds of raw opium so far this year compared to the 5,500 pounds seized during 1953.

The rest of the haul, Customs authorities revealed, came from Formia and India.

Most of the opium confiscated was found hidden among the cargo and in engine rooms of ships coming from Burmese, Thai, Indian and Persian ports.

The authorities recently seized some 100 pounds of opium from the tail compartment of an aircraft which arrived here from Rangoon.—France-Press.

Foreign trade with these countries had been revived after several years' interruption. Negotiations were pending or had been opened with them to conclude trade and payments agreements in preparation for expanded trade in the coming year.

Trade with both Eastern and Western countries would be expanded, he said.—Reuter.

4,000 Cars
Stolen in
South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 28.

More than 4,000 cars are stolen throughout South Africa each year. Most are recovered, many in a seriously damaged condition, but 100 have vanished this year without leaving a trace.

It is estimated that at least 1,000 cars are taken or tampered with each month. Police have no accurate records of kerb-side thefts, because many motorists do not report minor incidents as they do not want to lose non-claim bonuses.

Apart from car thefts to strip valuable accessories such as radio, tyres and wheels, there are hundreds of cases of vehicles being taken for joy riding and then abandoned, sometimes without petrol and in a damaged condition.—Reuter.

TO-DAY
ONLY
MAJESTIC
AT 2.30, 5.20,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

TO-MORROW! "THE JOE LOUIS STORY"

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY

HIS BIGGEST ADVENTURE!

NEW YEAR ATTRACTION!
"YOUNG AT HEART"
Doris DAY • Frank SINATRA

HOOVER

CAUSEWAY BAY TEL. 72371
NOW PLAYING
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

CORNEL WILDE



STARTING THURSDAY, DEC. 30th

"CRIMES OF PARIS"

HOOVER : GREAT WORLD

CAUSEWAY BAY TEL. 72371 KOWLOON TEL. 53800

COMING: THE UNCONQUERABLE!



Watch for its opening day!!!

RITZ

SHOWING
TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.KING RICHARD
AND THE CRUSADERSWARNER BROS. PRESENTS
CINEMASCOPE
WATER COLOR AND
PERSPECTA STEREOFONIC SOUNDOUT OF THE ADVENTURE
PAGES OF THE YEAR!

REX HARRISON, VIRGINIA MAYO, GEORGE SANDERS, LAUREN HARVEY, ROBERT DOUGLAS, JOHN TWIST, HENRY BLANKE, DAVID BUTLER

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN

ORIENTAL

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

JEANNE CRAIN, ANDREW FARRAR, DAVID FARRAR, DAVID BUTLER

"DUEL IN THE JUNGLE"

WARNER BROS. PRESENTS
CINEMASCOPE
WATER COLOR AND
PERSPECTA STEREOFONIC SOUNDSHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Bumpered off!



GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED



POPE PIUS XII
POPE MAY
HAVE
OPERATION

Vatican City, Dec. 27. Pope Pius XII has responded well to the strength-building programme of increased amounts of food and exercise prescribed by the team of five doctors treating him, Vatican sources said today. Under the programme it is possible the 78-year-old Pope will become strong enough for the doctors to operate and correct the hernia of the diaphragm which caused his collapse 25 days ago, the sources said.

The Pope made "very encouraging" progress over the Christmas holiday and is gaining strength steadily, the sources added. His condition has improved so that the doctors have stopped giving him the blood and plasma transfusions begun after his collapse on December 2.

Since Christmas there has been no trace of the haemorrhage that accompanied the Pontiff's gastritis, the sources said. The Pope now is able to digest increasing quantities of strength-building meals.

RESTFUL NIGHT.

The Papal physician, Prof. Riccardo Galeazzi-Lisi reported after a visit this morning that his patient spent a "very restful night."

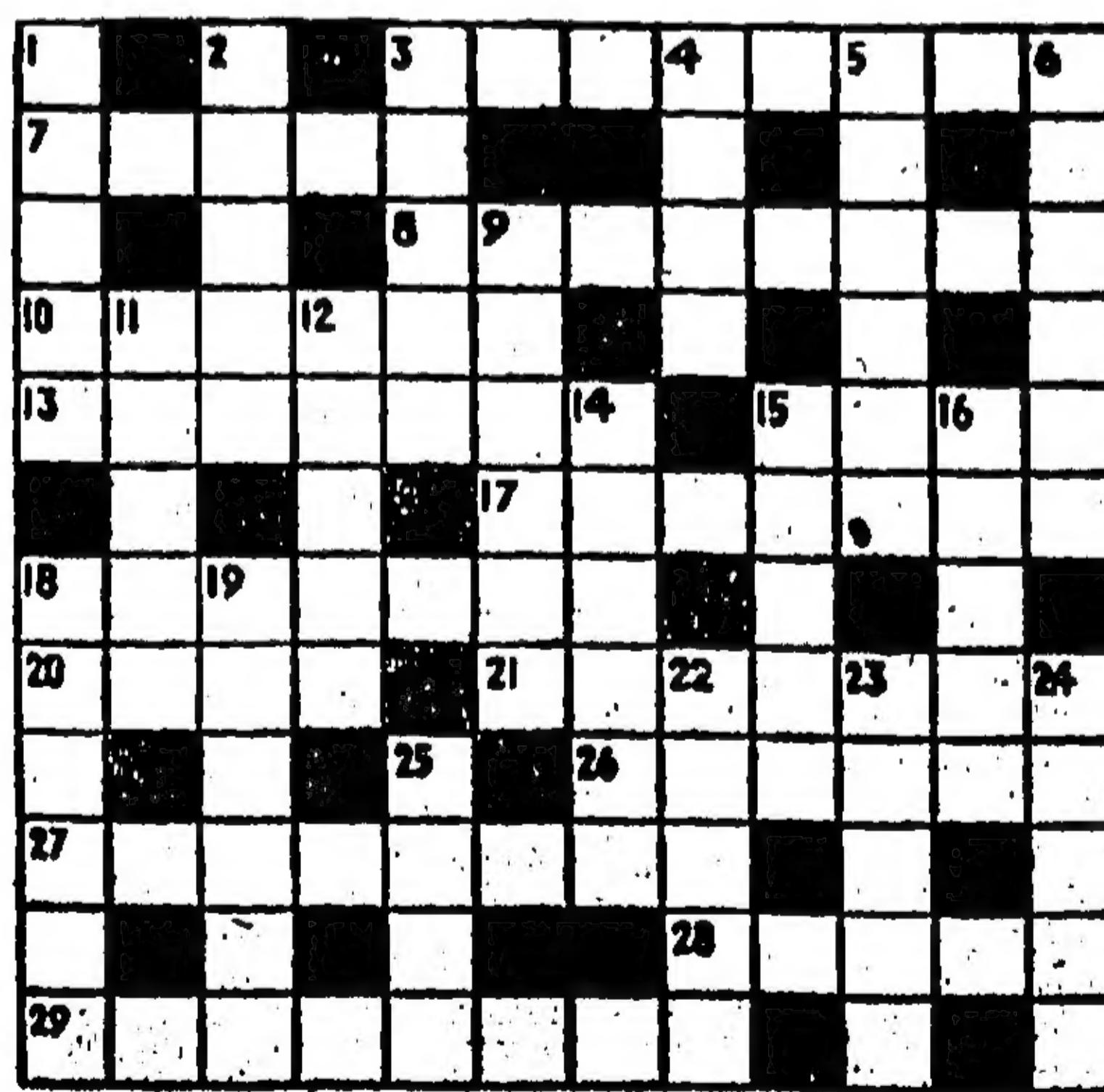
The Pope had mass said in an armchair in his study and then breakfasted on boiled eggs and read the newspaper. Later Maggi Angelo Dellecqua, deputy-secretary of state, visited him to discuss affairs of the Church.

The Pontiff is working steadily on his 4,000-word Christmas address which he hopes will be ready by New Year. Illness delayed its preparation.

It will be published in the Vatican newspaper *Observatore Romano* when finished. It includes another appeal for world peace, the sources reported.

Despite the Pope's marked improvement, Vatican sources warned the Pontiff still is weak. In line with his doctors' programme to build his strength the Pope takes daily outings in the Vatican Gardens.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Quell (8).
- Negotiate (5).
- Plunder (8).
- Elaborately adorned (9).
- Bishop's district (7).
- Purse (4).
- Advanced in years (7).
- Coward (7).
- Medicinal plant (4).
- Places of worship (7).
- Hound (6).
- Scouter (8).
- Track (6).
- Confirm (8).

DOWN

- Got to one's feet (5).
- Jollification (colloq.) (5).
- Express (5).
- Support (4).
- Indulger (6).
- Stable (6).
- Abandon (6).
- Competitor (5).
- Sharp (6).
- Seniors (6).
- Hibernes (5).
- Change (5).
- Loiter (6).
- Pickled (6).
- Encounters (5).
- Faithful (6).
- Purloined (6).
- Fruit (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Hectic; 3. Hides; 8. Colon; 9. Ponies; 10. Shiro; 11. State; 12. Look; 13. Litter; 14. Amused; 15. Stress; 20. Sheen; 22. Sores; 25. Facts; 26. Patent; 27. Ethyl; 28. Mounds; 1. Hopscotch; 2. Converse; 3. Ices; 4. Costume; 5. Hostess; 6. Inhere; 7. Lair; 14. Adjacent; 15. Excitor; 16. Arrests; 17. Unspun; 18. Tense; 21. Heave; 24. Sore.

U.S. ARMED FORCES CUT

Senator Wants Careful Investigation

ONE OF BIGGEST GAMBLLES KNOWN'

Washington, Dec. 27.

Senator John C. Stennis said today that Congress must investigate carefully to determine whether the Administration's proposed cuts in United States armed strength can be "justified" by the modern concepts of atomic warfare.

The Mississippi Democrat is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. He made the statement as another Senate Democrat — Senator Mike Monroney — urged that the Committee make a careful study of the entire defence programme emphasising the cuts in ground force manpower and the proposed reserve programme.

Sen. Monroney said that the cuts in Army and Marine strength constitute "one of the biggest gambles" the United States has ever known. He said decreasing the strength of the Army and Marines could be an invitation for more of the "nibbling tactics" employed by the Soviet Union.

Sen. Stennis did not say he opposes the proposed cuts. In Army, Navy and Marine armed strength announced last week by the Secretary of Defence, Mr Charles E. Wilson. He said that the cuts must be "carefully and thoroughly" investigated.

ALTER IDEAS

"There is no question but that modern warfare makes it possible to alter certain of the ideas we have always had about manpower," Sen. Stennis said.

The question will be whether these cuts can be justified on that basis.

Sen. Stennis said he is inclined to favour the Administration's plan for building up United States reserve forces through a continuation of the draft coupled with a sort of voluntary programme of universal military training.

"We have got to build up the reserve," Sen. Stennis said, "and I believe something of this sort will do the job."

Sen. Monroney agreed that some such programme is necessary to build up the reserve, but he criticised the move to cut down ground forces.

Sen. Monroney said the manpower cuts apparently are based on the assumption that the world climate now seems more favourable for avoiding war.

"That may be true as far as World War III is concerned," he said, "but it surely does not

RESERVE PROGRAMME

The new reserve programme, announced three days previously, would continue the draft law for four years to obtain young men for two-year hitchs in the armed services. In addition it would set up a programme to give six months' military training to 100,000 youths a year.

The reserve programme is designed to make available combat ready reserves totalling 3,000,000 by 1960. — United Press.

U.S. Madrid Embassy To Cost £1M

Madrid, Dec. 27.

Madrid's new United States Embassy building will, it is estimated, have cost 3,000,000 dollars (over £1,000,000) by the time it is finished next year.

The nine-storey Embassy, a functional building resembling somewhat the United Nations palace in New York, but only 38 metres (about 124 feet) high, was begun in 1952. Then its cost was estimated at 1,250,000 dollars (about £420,000). Recently, a sub-committee of the House of Representatives studied the cost of the building during a visit to Madrid. Representative Harrison Williams described the new Embassy as "born in extravagance and based on the belief that the United States would never run out of money."

There has been local criticism of the architecture of the new Embassy and recently the writer Rafael Garcia Serrano in the Spanish newspaper "Aribo" described it as "one of the two ugliest buildings in Madrid." Other critics, however, have approved of its light and airy character.

One critic said: "Spanish public offices are often built without sufficient consideration for the light and other conditions in the rooms to be used by the employees. The new American building is an example of careful planning in this respect." — Reuters.

NEW HOSPITAL

A new 200-bed hospital, built largely with funds provided under the Marshall Plan, has been officially opened here.

The "Princess Alexandra" Maternity Hospital, and the Queen Protection Nurses Training School, were inaugurated in the presence of the King and Queen of Greece.



Gilbert Houche, Swedish wild animals tamer, showing his sensational numbers with seven tigers. One of them jumps through a loop held by the tamer. Houche is seen at the opening performance of the Circus Festival now being held in Lyons. 13 circus companies take part.—Express Photo.

Kotelawala Wants To Promote World Friendship

Manila, Dec. 28.

Mr Carlos Garcia, Philippines Vice-President, and concurrently Foreign Minister, said here today that Sir John Kotelawala, Ceylon's Premier, impressed him "as one who wants to promote the friendship of all peoples, both the Communists and non-Communists, but in a showdown, he and his country will side with the Democracies."

Mr Garcia had the most contact with Sir John, accompanying him on a tour of historic places in and around Manila, and on a side trip to Baguio, in Northern Luzon.

Mr Garcia also said he was awaiting word from Sir John on his return to Ceylon on the relative possibility of Ceylon's buying her sugar requirements from the Philippines.

Sir John said there was no reason why Ceylon should not buy the Philippines' surplus sugar.

COPRA EXPERTS

Mr Garcia also urged that the Philippines should take advantage of Sir John's offer to send to the Philippines Ceylon copra experts to help the Philippines to improve the quality of its copra products.

Mr Garcia said he and Sir John discussed the feasibility of exchanging trade missions to determine what products could be exchanged by the two countries.

He said he would discuss with the Philippines businessmen soon a plan to bolster trade between Ceylon and the Philippines.

Mr Garcia appeared unimpressed by Sir John's belief that what Asia needed was "not blocks with set rules and regulations and objectives but something like a commonwealth which is family."

Mr Garcia said Sir John's idea was grand, but it needed further study. He added the Philippines was already a member of the United Nations and other

United Nations.

Recently, a sub-committee of the House of Representatives studied the cost of the building during a visit to Madrid. Representative Harrison Williams described the new Embassy as "born in extravagance and based on the belief that the United States would never run out of money."

There has been local criticism of the architecture of the new Embassy and recently the writer Rafael Garcia Serrano in the Spanish newspaper "Aribo" described it as "one of the two ugliest buildings in Madrid."

Other critics, however, have approved of its light and airy character.

One critic said: "Spanish public offices are often built without sufficient consideration for the light and other conditions in the rooms to be used by the employees. The new American building is an example of careful planning in this respect." — Reuters.

A new 200-bed hospital, built largely with funds provided under the Marshall Plan, has been officially opened here.

The "Princess Alexandra" Maternity Hospital, and the Queen Protection Nurses Training School, were inaugurated in the presence of the King and Queen of Greece.



THE TOUGH TALKER they call BIG BILL

A man-in-the-news profile by HUGH DUNDAS

Sen. Knowland

HE is known to one and all as Big Bill. He is the leader of the big—over 6 ft. tall, 14 st. 4 lb. heavy, and he talks as tough as he looks.

You may not yet have heard of Senator William Fife Knowland, Republican leader in the U.S. Senate.

But you will.

If Eisenhower refuses to run again, or if his health prevents it, or if there is a serious split in the Republican Party—result: Knowland might well get the presidential nomination.

And there would be a chance—less than an even chance, but still not negligible—that this man who now wants to blockade Red China, who wants to break off diplomatic relations with the Russians, who is generally known as "the senator from Formosa," would be elected President of the United States.

What kind of man is this, whose policies so often send a shiver of alarm across the world?

Billy the boy

YOUNG Billy Knowland was born and reared in the world of politics. His father, a newspaper publisher from Alameda, California, was serving the third of six consecutive terms as Representative in the U.S. Congress when Billy was born on June 26, 1908. So the boy spent the first years of his life in Washington.

When he went to the University of California at 17 he read political science—and from then he has rushed forward along his chosen path.

Youngest member of California's State Assembly at 25; youngest member of the State Senate at 27; youngest member of the Republican National Committee at 30; youngest chairman of the executive committee of the National Committee at 33; youngest U.S. senator at 37—he was appointed in 1945, while serving as an army major.

In 1952 he was re-elected with the biggest majority California has ever given a senator.



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HONGKONG

A few months later he was chosen by the dying Robert Taft to take his place as majority leader in the parliamentary "Prime Ministry" of the Senate floor you cannot help respecting him.

Young William Knowland had really arrived.

There is no difficulty at all about tracing Knowland's developing thoughts and policies as a senator. They are charted for all to see.

IN 1948 he was leader of a small group which threatened to torpedo Marshal Aid legislation unless Chiang Kai-shek got a cut of the proceeds. Result: 400,000,000 dollars for generalissimo.

DURING THE KOREAN WAR he constantly called for stronger and more extensive action by United Nations forces. He was a staunch supporter of General MacArthur.

IN 1952, after MacArthur's recall, he demanded sanctions against Russia unless that country stopped giving aid to the North Koreans.

IN 1953 he challenged Russia's right to sit in the United Nations.

AFTER THE KOREAN TRUCE he repeatedly stated that the United States should intervene on a massive scale in the event of a breach of the armistice by the Chinese—even though that meant risking war with Russia.

LAST MAY he said that the United States should be ready to fight to save Indo-China.

IN JULY he said he would, if it came to the point, resign as Senate leader in order to fight the inclusion of Red China in the United Nations.

IN SEPTEMBER he wanted the U.S. Air Force to act if necessary to save Quemoy, Nationalist-held island outpost from the artillery range of the mainland; and he called for a break-off of diplomatic relations with Russia, after a navy plane had been shot down over the China Sea.

A FEW WEEKS AGO he called for a naval blockade of China.

Such a cold recital of the Knowland story may make him seem like an out-and-out

ingalist. But that is not the case at all.

When you have seen Big Bill Knowland in action on the Senate floor you cannot help respecting him.

Billy the Big

HERE is a man who believes with all his big, full heart in the cause and policies he proclaims.

Knowland wants the U.S. Government to talk tough, act tough, throw patience to the winds. And his conviction that these ideas are right is so strong that he has now taken the drastic step of breaking openly with the President so far as foreign policy is concerned.

And because he has in all important things a record of absolute and unswerving consistency there is no reason to suppose that he will not carry the same cause and policies with him to the White House—if that is indeed the way he is heading.

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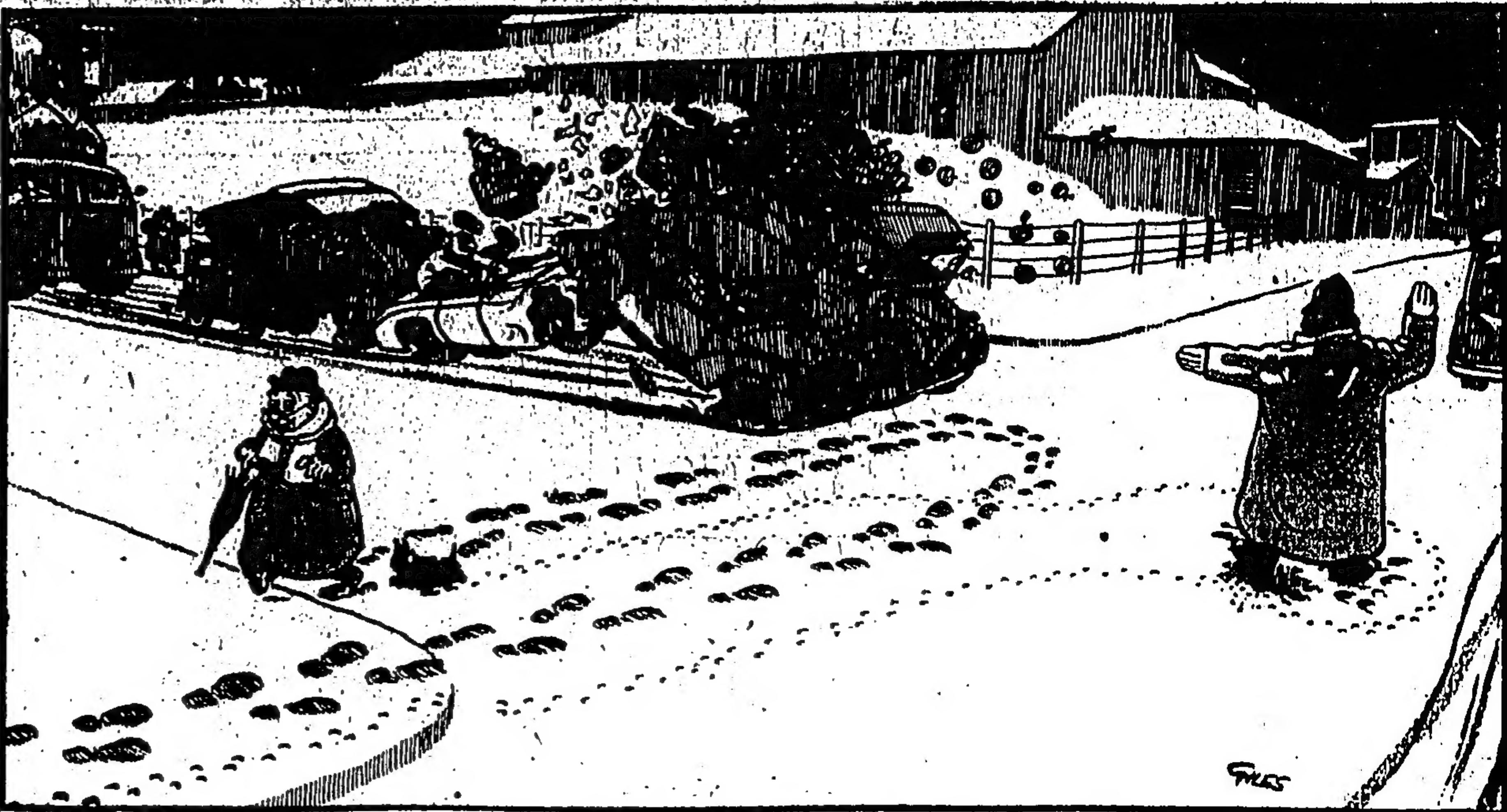
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"Dear me, I nearly forgot—we mustn't jay walk now."

London Express Service

Enemy Turned Friend In Indo-China

COMMUNISTS WOO THE FRENCH

By JAMES WICKENDEN

London. A N enemy turned friend was, normal in the power politics of Machiavelli's days. Yet it is happening even now, in Indo-China where former enemies, France and Communist Vietnam, are drawing together.

Another Renaissance touch was to suspect one's allies. This climax, too, may be imminent in Asia. For Ho Chi-minh intends that the Franco-Vietminh alignment will oppose the growing American link with Nationalist Vietnam.

One more omen of danger is growing dissension among the anti-Communist sects and leaders in Indo-China. Whitehall believes there is still time for them to form a democratic front.

But its experts consider that the signs point to trouble, perhaps civil war, in the months ahead.

Slowly the door opens. A stranger stands there. None knows him. The room falls silent.

Wordlessly MacColl (for it is he) points to his little enamelled badge. A gasp goes up. The books are quickly consulted. Yes, here is yesterday's hero, bearded and greying, but still valid.

A double Van der Hum is thrust into the newcomer's eager hand, and in no time at all he is joining in a tremolo rendering of "Silent Night."

Johannesburg, here I come!

—[London Express Service]

It is indecision and divided council. A maze of factional squabbles in Indo-China, hesitancy in Washington and wavering in Paris for firm action by anyone.

For example, the Mendes-France group in Paris has largely abandoned interest in Indo-China, except for trade.

"Let the Americans handle the rest," seems to be their motto.

To promote trade, Paris is extending credits to the Com-

ALARM

WORLD statesmen have watched this mounting unrest with alarm. Eden, Dulles, Nehru and Commissioner MacDonald have raised a month-long chorus of warnings.

Eden has revealed that Vietminh forces will reach double strength by the

CIVIL WAR

WHAT is behind these fears of a drift into civil war?

Washington has warned that it will withdraw military aid if the Army is drawn into a coup against Diem. But once the aid is given, Washington wonders how it will control events. This is a root of American hostilities over their Indo-China policies.

To strengthen Diem, Washington works through the only man still with wide influence in free Indo-China—Emperor Bao Dai.

Although in the French Riviera, Bao Dai manages to

operate a remote but intermittent control over Indo-Chinese factionalism. He has just snatched rebellious Chief of Staff Hinh and replaced him with Van Ty.

Ty is a rare combination: an unwavering, high-principled Nationalist who has been sufficiently broad-minded in the past to work with the French.

He will be more in harmony with Diem, and may draw the Army to the Premier's support.

However, this is only a start. Diem may be the centre of squabbles in Indo-China and the focus of American policy at present. But will he last? Even if he does, can a democratic front be built against Communism in Indo-China merely by bucking leaders?

Below the Indo-China confusion these are real questions.

So far Diem has not appeared to be a good prospect for the Americans, although he is respected in Vietnam. For he is an idealist unaccustomed to rough-and-tumble politics. He has yet to prove that he can organise government, drawing support from the villages.

THE TASK

AND the villages are where power lies in Indo-China. Ho Chi-minh takes his whole strength from them. His government and army are based on village committees and base guards, which have large local power. The primary task of the Vietminh Army, say the Communists, is to be in the people like the fish in water.

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To make equally strong the task before the free villages is the task before Diem and Washington. So far they have hardly begun.

CAN YOU LIVE WITH THAT HOBBY?

★ It may be anything from bird-watching to jazz bands, but there is usually a solution—as at least ten enthusiastic wives have found out.

When I read the remarks of Mr. Commissioner Blanco White in the Divorce Court recently about the dangers of husbands' hobbies, I set out to examine the case histories of 10 wives.

One husband with a hobby is not the easiest man with whom to live," said Mr. Blanco White.

It is a hobby which brings him home.

Encourage the hobby. It's a wonderful thing from which he gets endless interest. And it brings him home.

• • •

But most women I found do not agree with the Commissioner.

• • •

Mrs. Peter Cushing, wife of the TV actor, is a non-participant in his hobby of making model soldiers (of which he has 2,000). But she says:

"Encourage the hobby. It's a

success."

Mrs. Henrietta Bennett, wife of the Commodore of the House of Commons Yacht Club, Dr. Reginald Bennett, MP, "depends what his hobby is. I play golf and tennis, and I like to sit and knit in the sun. But if it's cold and wet I don't go."

Mrs. Peter Cushing, wife of the TV actor, is a non-participant in his hobby of making model soldiers (of which he has 2,000). But she says:

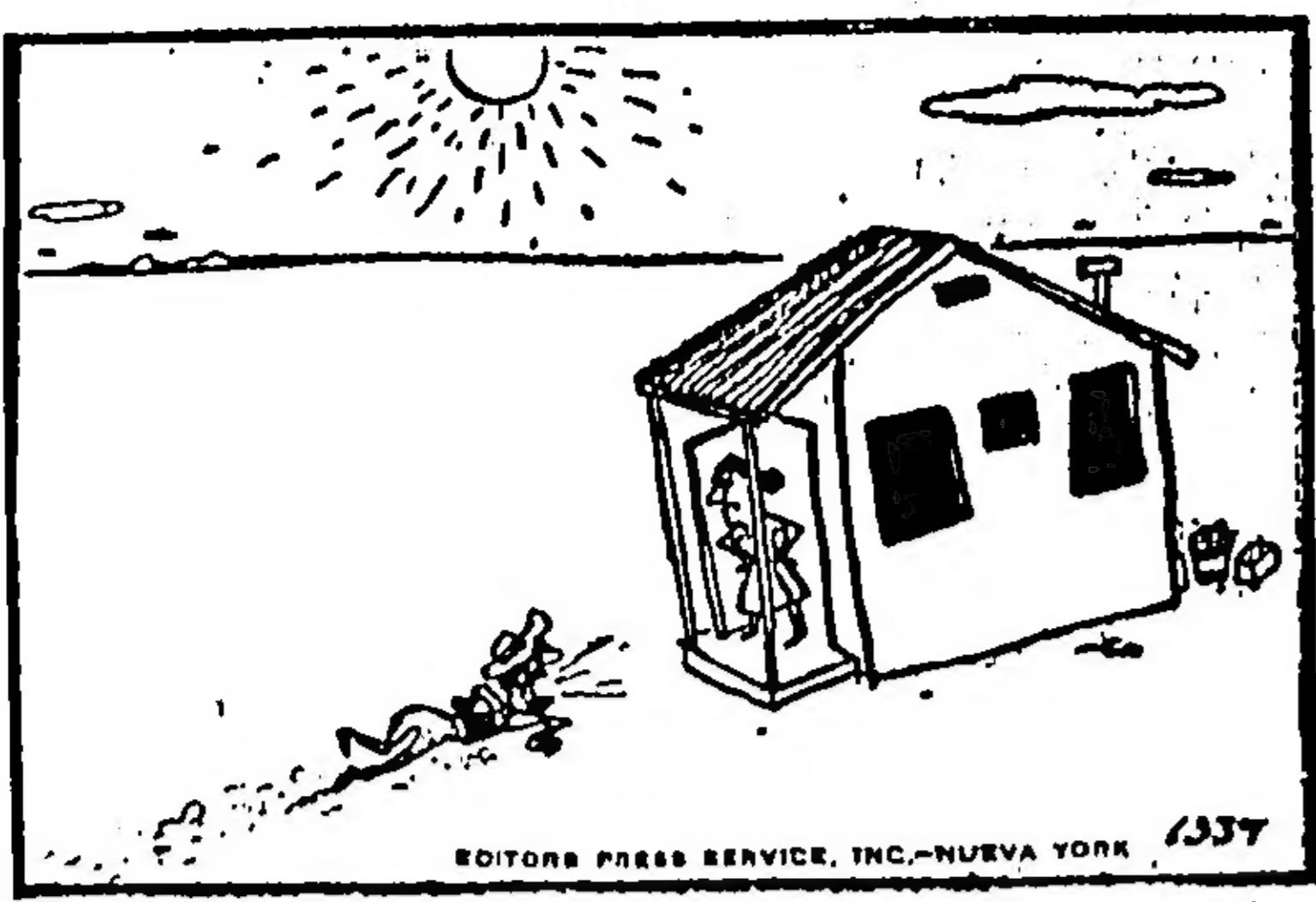
"Encourage the hobby. It's a

success."

Lady Monckton, married a man whose chief joy is riding on the steamship of steam engines. Lady Monckton is a world authority on railways, particularly French railways.

His wife says: "Life rides on foot in France, and I go to Paris. What could be more

impossible?"



EDITORS PRESS SERVICE, INC.-NUEVA YORK 1337

"I have not been drinking—that's the whole trouble."

• BY • THE • WAY • by Beachcomber

THE suggestion in the document known as Operation Progress, that, by marking terminal crossing-places at alternate corners of all transverse streets traffic would be more evenly distributed, takes no account of the overflow from main streets which would follow any prolonged hold-up.

More reasonable is the plan for internal circular streets, confined to their own districts. This would allow all traffic in a district to use a series of wide double-lane roundabouts, eastward traffic going round one way, and westward the other. Convergences would be avoided by splitting out each exit from a roundabout in a series of one-way spearhead streets, linked by oblique throughways. By this system, parking places would be bypassed at every corner, and the turnabouts would be fed from subsidiary two-lane truck carriageways.

Do we deserve such privileges?

FREEDOM, slowly broadening down from precedent to precedent, is about to take an enormous stride. If you can get a scientist to vouch for you, you may be allowed to cross the Channel to France without a passport, provided that you do not proceed more than 10 statute miles in any direction.

from the port, and return within six hours of landing. The complicated administrative arrangements involved in this revolutionary idea will have to be thoroughly debated in both Houses. But by 1957 the daring plan may be ready to be put into operation. It is even possible that, as a foretaste of the heady wine of freedom, you may be allowed, in June 1956, to go to France without a passport, provided that you do not land, and agree to return on the same boat within one statute hour of arrival.

Elephant in the ointment
Her dressing-room's become a fragrant bower,
She blunders like a bee from flower to flower,
Reading, with their applause still in her ears,
The idiot scribblings of enamoured peers
On costly cards that bear illustrious names—
(Their photos are at home in silver frames).
Then suddenly, tied up with common turse,
A bouquet of unusual design catches her eye. Suspecting her head, she screams, she moans, she falls, as though struck dead. That hideous Texan, that creptuous bore

has sent a mass of cactuses once more.

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

BOUGH today, you have a talent for detail which is evidenced by your ability to handle the most intricate affairs successfully. You enjoy originating plans, putting them into operation, and watching them mature as you had hoped, but your idealism is difficult to set in full realization. You are always pushing at so high a star. You would be the highest, but you refuse to compromise. Still, you are an excellent organizer and know how to get things started.

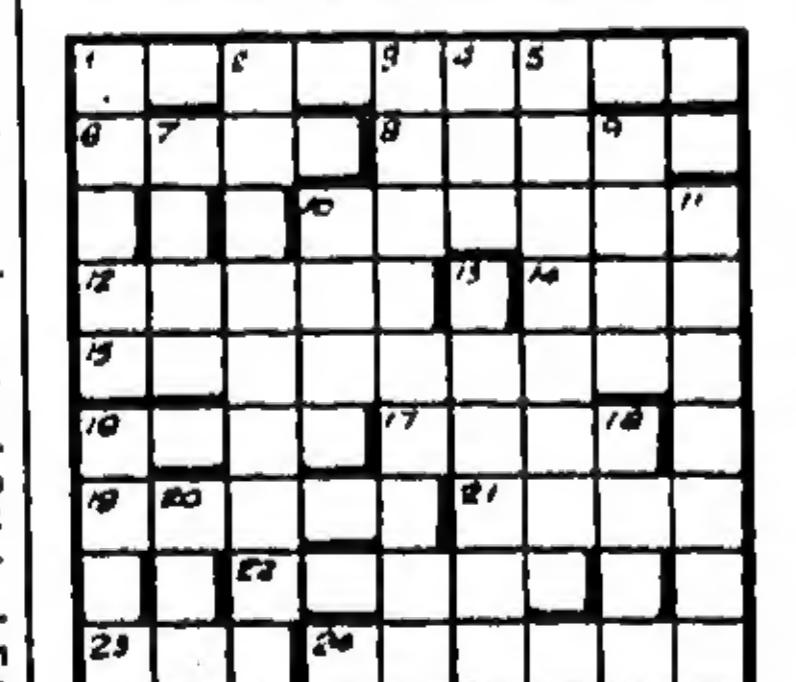
You are best suited for large enterprises, for you can make great events typify. You are just and straightforward in all you do and expect that others will be the same. Unfortunately you are not so strong in your ideals, and you refuse to compromise. Still, you are an excellent organizer and know how to get things started.

Discover the good

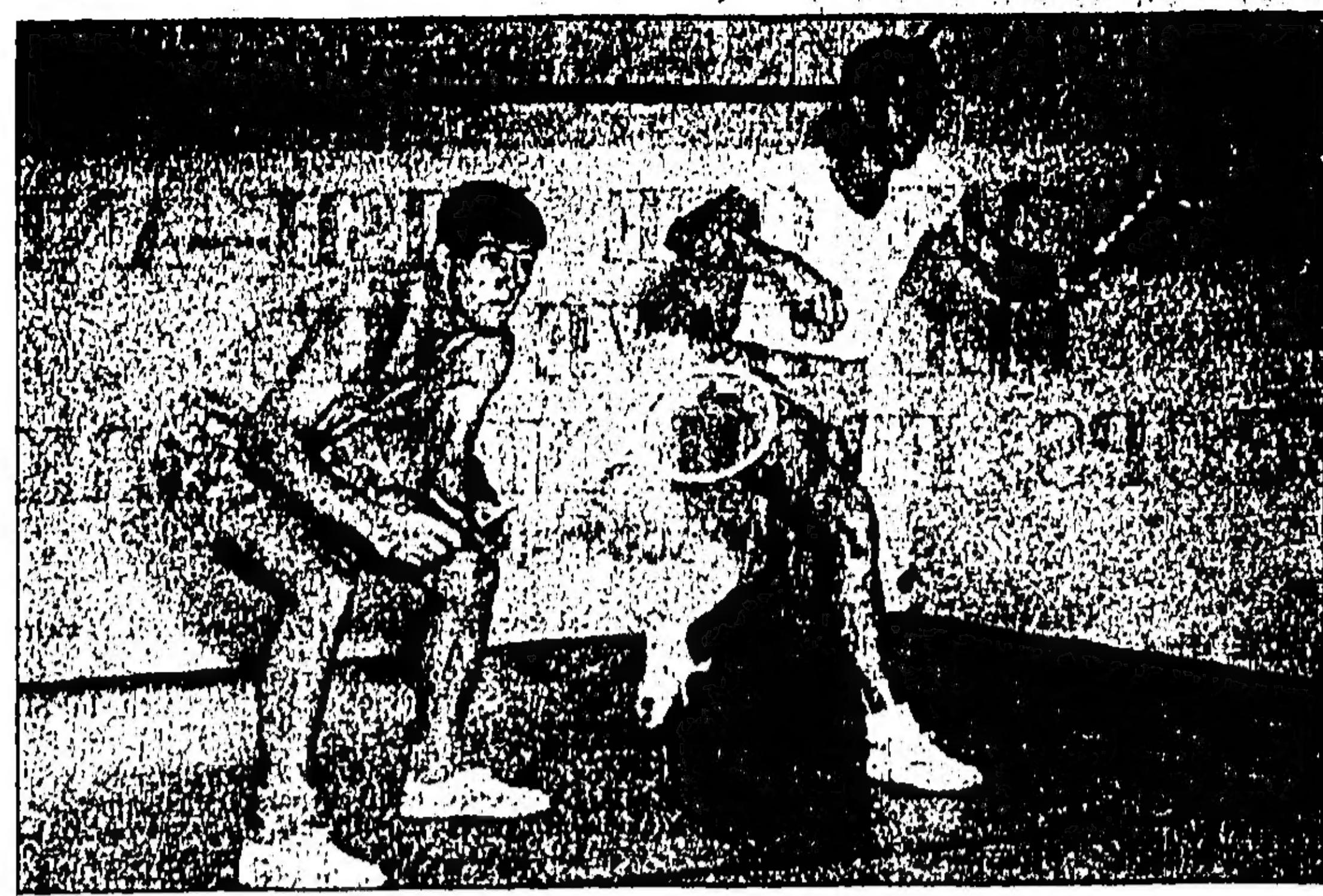
Wednesday, DECEMBER 29

make your plans in accordance with a prearranged schedule.

CROSSWORD



GETTING INTO TRIM



Ken Rosewall (left) and Neil Fraser, two members of the Australian Davis Cup team, sweat it out in a game of squash in Melbourne when the team went into arduous training.—Central Press Photo.

Promoted Everton Complete The Double Against Wolves

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 27. No toffee for Wolves this Christmas. The Wanderers of Wolverhampton, First Division Champions, unofficial Champions of Europe and pride of English soccer, were all set to devour the "Toffees" of Everton in a cup from the Second Division.

But it was Wolves who got bitten. On Christmas Day they lost 3-1 at home. Today Everton acted as hosts. Their hospitality didn't extend as far as giving away points. They won 3-2. Some 75,000 spectators packed Goodison Park to see Wolves held at bay.

Everton centre-forward Dave Tottenham, won both Christmas Day games 2-1 at Bolton on Christmas Day and 1-0 at home to Bolton today. And so its need for points to climb clear of the relegation zone.

A welcome Christmas bonus, too, for struggling Arsenal. They forced a one-all draw at Stamford Bridge against Chelsea, where gates were closed before the kick-off, to follow their Christmas Day win.

Today's game continued Chelsea's missed penalty saga. Centre-forward Roy Bentley's spot kick was pushed round the post by Arsenal's Welsh International goalkeeper Jack Kelsey.

Plenty of goals in the Christmas stocking for Blackburn Rovers. They swamped Doncaster 7-2 to give them a Christmas aggregate of 10 and take them to the top of the Second Division.

ONLY ONE OTHER

London: Everton only one other First Division club,

JULIUS KATCHEN

From the London Festival Hall (April 1954): After Katchen's recital last night, older concert-goers were saying that not since Rachmaninoff had they heard such playing. The audience was wild with enthusiasm. Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, to all of these he brought the profundity of a Schnabel, united with the virtuosity of a Horowitz. That combination spelt greatness. At 28 this brilliant American should have the world at his feet.

Appearing at the EMPIRE THEATRE

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ACCORDING TO AVERAGES IT'S AMERICA'S TURN TO WIN THE DAVIS CUP

Says DENNIS HART

On December 27, sandwiched between the goodwill festivals of Christmas and New Year, America and Australia again declared tennis war. For three days at Sydney's White City Stadium they will be fighting for the Davis Cup—and world supremacy.

It's been that way since 1938. In a tournament that spans the earth, these same two countries have fought out the final. Australia has won for the last four years, America, the four before that.

According to averages, then, it's America's turn. And that is as good a way of forecasting as any. The days are past when players like America's Bill Tilden, France's "Three Musketeers"—Borotra, Cochet and Brugnon; Englishman Fred Perry and more recently, Frank Sedgman of Australia, so dominated the world scene in turn that their countries took the Davis Cup as a matter of course.

STANDARDS LEVELLED

Top players today get so much tennis as they follow the sun from Australia across Africa, Europe, America and it's Australia that standards have been levelled.

So this year we find that of the Chadiago Round teams, Hoad, Rosewall, Hartwig and Rose of Australia have all beaten and been beaten by America's Seixas and Trabert. And if that's not enough, Lewis Hoad, who pulled last year's match out of the fire for Australia with his brilliant win over Trabert has said that he is fed up with tennis anyway. That outburst, however, can save Australia.

All tennis and nothing else has made Lewis a dull boy.

Twenty years old, he has spent most of his time wielding a racket under the stern eye of team manager Harry Hopman.

He has become an automaton, still playing good, punchy tennis, but with decreasing sparkle, flattening out steam as he did in his system; it can restore that.

Compton In Fine Form Against Country Eleven

Newcastle, N.S.W., Dec. 27. Denis Compton, making his first appearance since breaking a finger in the first Test, showed fine form in scoring 55 not for MCC against the New South Wales country XI today.

Revolting in the chance of getting some match practice before the third Test which begins on Friday, he batted only 75 minutes for his runs and hit four fours. He and Jim McConnon, 43, added 85 for the third wicket.

MCC with 116 for four wickets were 95 runs behind the country's total of 211 at the close of the first day of a three-day game. Top scorer for the country was R. McDonald with an enterprising 63.

He hit one five and six fours during a stay of 104 minutes. He and C. Stephenson, 30, added 86 in an hour for the fifth wicket.

Johnny Wardle, Yorkshire's left-arm slow bowler, took the last six wickets for 30 runs. — Reuter.

THE RESULTS

League I		
Chelsea	1	Arsenal
Everton	3	Wolves
Huddersfield	1	Sunderland
Leicester	0	Sheffield U
McChester U.	0	Aston Villa
Newcastle	2	McChester C.
Portsmouth	3	Blackpool
Preston	0	Burnley
Sheffield W.	2	Charlton
Tottenham	3	Bolton
West Brom.	1	Cardiff City
	0	

League II		
Blackburn	7	Doncaster
Bristol R.	1	Notts C.
Bury	1	Stoke
Derby	0	West Ham
Hull	0	Luton
Ipswich	2	Liverpool
Lincoln	2	Rotherham
Middlesb.	0	Leeds
Notts F.	0	Birmingham
Port Vale	4	Fulham
Swansea	4	Plymouth
	0	

League III (Southern)		
Colchester	1	Aldershot
Gillingham	3	Torquay
Leyton	0	Brighton
Millwall	2	Brentford
Newport	0	Crystal Pal.
Northampton	1	Queen's P.R.
Notting	3	Southend
Shrewsbury	2	Bristol C.
Southampton	1	Walsall
	0	

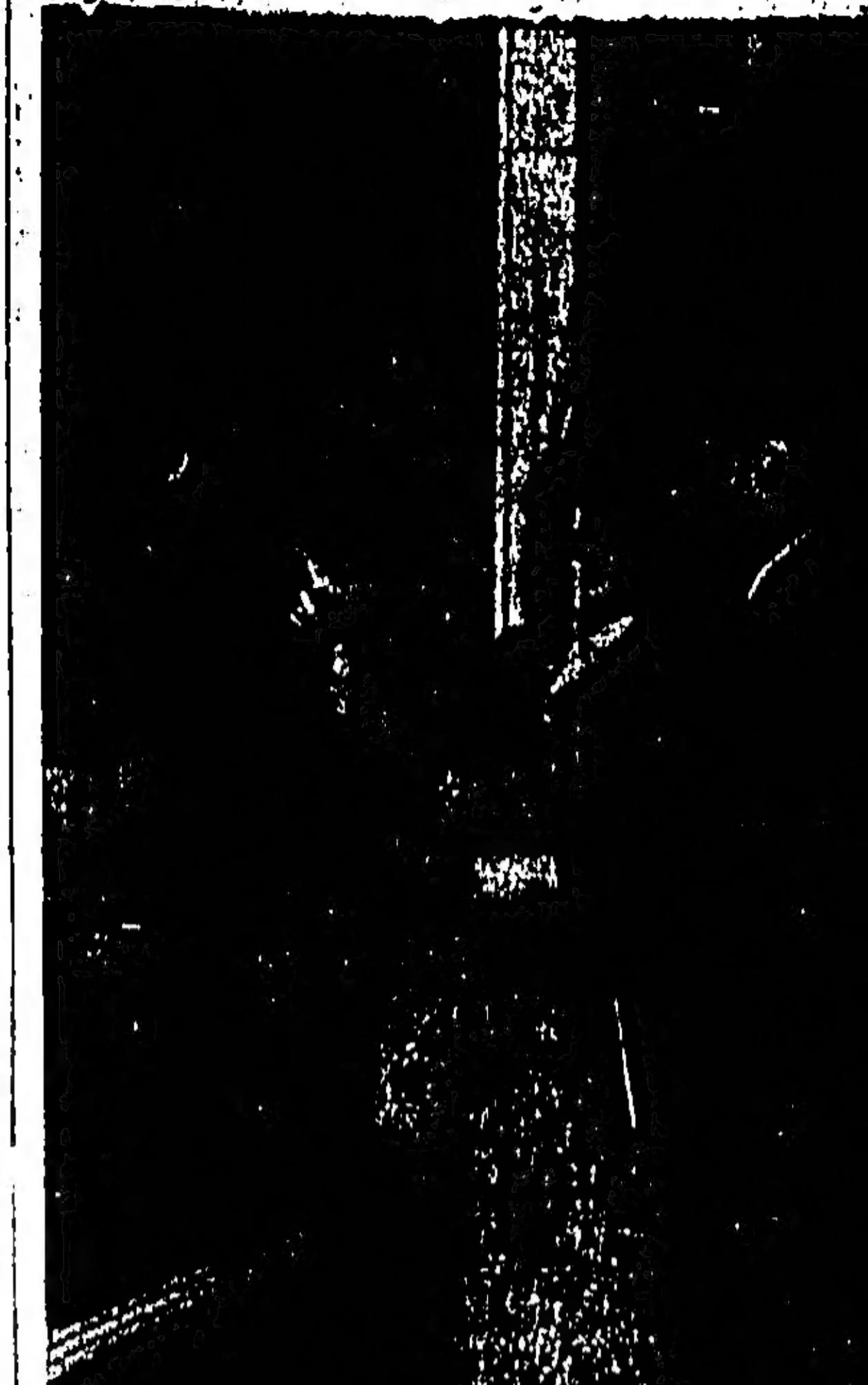
League III (Northern)		
Accrington	1	Halifax
Burnley	1	Grimsby
Hull	0	Barrow
Portsmouth	2	Cleethorpes
Sheffield	3	Stockport
Southport	2	Tranmere
Wrexham	2	Hartlepools
	0	

Irish League		
Southport	1	Workington
Wrexham	2	Oldham
	0	

THE GAMBOLES



WORTH £72,000



TAKE YOUR CUE FROM HORACE LINDRUM USE THE STUN ON STRANGE TABLES

"How on earth did you manage to play on that table?"

The question was put to me by an amateur player during a recent exhibition game. He was unable to produce anything like his form on that particular table.

Well, cushions vary considerably, and if you can sum up a table after a few minutes' play, you will automatically play the type of game which will give the best results.

This is where I shall again stress the importance of the 'stun' stroke. Where you might use 'side' to gain a certain position on a known table, it would perhaps be impossible to judge the stroke on a strange table unless you employ the 'stun'.

First, address the cue-ball a little below centre for poising the yellow into the bottom right-hand corner pocket. Play the stroke fast, squeezing the cue slightly at the moment of impact—the white ball should make contact with the bottom cushion and come away into position XI for the green, as shown by the tracer.

If you can execute the 'stun' stroke with confidence it is always the safe shot if the table is unfamiliar to you. Playing as I do, on so many different tables, I ignore using 'side' as much as possible and use the 'stun' to avoid any unusual angle which a strange cushion might produce.

Thereafter, Seixas played great fighting tennis to take the next two sets. He did not lose a point in any of his four service games in the fourth set, whereas Rosewall was always struggling to hold his service.

After a succession of service breaks for 5-5, Seixas went to 40-30 on Rosewall's service.

Then he thought a ball from Rosewall was out, but the linesman did not call it. Seixas appealed to the umpire, who then called 'deuce'.

Seixas appeared unhappy with the decision and lost the game and eventually the set.

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After a succession of service breaks for 5-5, Seixas went to 40-30 on Rosewall's service.

Then he thought a ball from Rosewall was out, but the linesman did not call it. Seixas appealed to the umpire, who then called 'deuce'.

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TWO GREAT HOLIDAY MATCHES BOTH ENGLAND AND CHINA FORCED TO STRUGGLE THROUGH TO VICTORY

By I. M. MacTAVISH

What a magnificent holiday present the International Cup matches were for the Colony's loyal soccer fans. A big crowd saw a double header that produced two very fine games of a strictly contrasting nature. They got a generous ration of thrills, spills and great goals and saw a glorious fight back by China who were 3-1 down with the game less than 10 minutes old.

The England-Scotland match was played first and right from the kick-off it was the much fancied England side that was on the receiving end of affairs.

The Scottish side, which included a number of players who do not normally appear in representative football, struck a fine combination and, with Higgins prompting and priming with a sequence of brilliant interceptions and passes, they gave the England defenders many anxious moments.

It was well for England that they had the benefit of a complete defence of regular team-mates who had an established understanding, and even then only some aerobatic saving by the goalkeeper Lewis denied the Scots the goal that had often looked likely to come from their clever on-the-carpet approach work.

The English forward line, with Mox the danger man, was never idle and if Gardner's finishing had been on a par with his midfield play they might have had a couple of first half goals. Walmsley on the left wing was always a bit too fast for Wright, but good covering by McKay and Falconer and a brilliant header saved by Beveridge kept the Scottish goal intact until the interval.

Right from the re-start England applied the pressure. After five minutes Gardner slipped the ball to Walmsley. The soldier left Wright standing before sending an accurate high lob across the goal and Moss, coming in at top speed, got his head to it to register a brilliant opening counter. A few minutes later he repeated his feat when he raced to the left hand post to nod a fast cross from the right into the net.

The Englishmen were now calling the tune and the earlier

THE MAC TAVISH STAR RATINGS

ENGLAND

Lewis	****
Walmsley	****
Hayes	****
Hughes	****
Hewitt	****
Toth	****
Stonehouse	****
Moss	****
Lender	****
Gardner	****
Ward	****

SCOTLAND

Beveridge	****
Wright	****
McKay	****
Higgins	****
Falconer	****
MacDonald	****
Paton	****
Leary	****
McGregor	****
McLennan	****
Tunison	****

CHINA vs. PORTUGAL

This game produced the most sensational start we have seen in years and before the big crowd had time to settle down China were two goals in
the afternoon.
The Portuguese boys started off at a fantastic pace and had their opponents staggered by the sheer speed of their movements. The China defence looked very suspect at this stage and it took them a long time to get over the shock of goals by J. Rocha and Alberto.
They fought back immediately, however, and a characteristic run through by Yiu Cheuk-yin saw the South China inside-left scoring a brilliant goal.
Three goals in little more than as many minutes really had the crowd on its feet, but

Cricket Lessons For Americans

London, Dec. 27. Admiral Sir Denis Boyd gave cricket lessons to 40 graduates from Kalamazoo, United States, during a recent six weeks study course at Ashridge College, Hertfordshire. It was reported today.

The Admiral, who is the College Principal, will have further opportunity to strengthen Anglo-American relations when more students visit him early next year from Iowa State College.—China Mail Special.

HOAD PREPARES



Lewis Hoad, the young Australian Davis Cup player, exercises with the dumbbells in a gymnasium in Melbourne where the Australian team went into training.—Central Press Photo.

SOCCER ON THE INSIDE

(Edited By Sam Leitch)

Blow No. 2 for Aston Villa. First Danny Blanchflower, now it's England International Tommy Thompson who seeks a move. Six days after Danny departed, 26-year-old Thompson popped in a written transfer request.

"I am very unsettled," says the former Newcastle player who cost Villa \$15,000 four years ago.

First in the queue is Hull City. Within two hours of receiving the manager Bob Jackson was in action. "Just the man we could do with," he says.

But remember it's not so long ago that Villa and Coventry were thinking about Thompson—Gordon Nutt swap!

Chesterfield manager Jack Butler has revealed that he tried unsuccessfully to persuade Wilf Mannion, former Middlesbrough and England inside-forward, to return to football.

"DRAGNET" OUT

Liverpool have the "dragnet" out in Scotland, to quote manager Don Welsh. Interest in O'Neill, the Aberdeen wing half-back inside forward, has faded, but the Anfield club has a liking for another Aberdeen half-back.

Greater scoring power on the wing is also sought, and Morton have been minded regarding Johnny Hannigan.

Now Your query for "Spurs," when centre-forward Dave Dunmore starts his National Service, will Len Duquemin regain the leadership or will Spurs plumb again into the transfer market?

Preston do not deny that clubs abroad are interested in Bobby Foster and Denis Halsell who have lost their places in the first team.

The supporters will be saving up an outsize roar of welcome for Billy on New Year's Day

CHRISTMAS IN HOLLYWOOD

Everything Colossal And The Champagne Can Be Swapped For Beer

By MICHAEL RUDDY

Street lamps are converted into illuminated Christmas trees or are flanked with red candles, 10 feet high. Hollywood Boulevard is Santa Claus Lane by Chamber of Commerce declaration and stars of radio, television and motion pictures ride with St Nick nightly in his oversize sleigh drawn by jet-propelled reindeer.

Recordings of Christmas carols are heard every half-hour in the Beverly Hills and Hollywood post-offices.

Opposite the Beverly Hills town-hall are two white-sprayed Christmas trees, 25 feet high, with a colossal illuminated "Season's Greetings" between them. The sound of carols rises above the roar of traffic. Every shop-window is decorated and across Wilshire Boulevard, Christmas garlands made of plastic are hung.

Huge wreaths of synthetic holly hang on shop doors and sprigs of fake mistletoe ("don't it look just like real mistletoe," says a saleswoman cooed) over doorways.

But there was nothing artificial about the methuselah of champagne which arrived for me from a film star for whom I'd done some small thing. Footnote: It can be swapped for beer.

MAN OF THE WEEK

Bing Crosby's my man of the week. First he settled an automobile injury damage suit for \$1,061,400 for \$100,000. The suit goes back to October last year when he collided with another car in the wee sma' hours. Other parties claimed he was negligent and had been drinking. Bing's now Mercedes.

Second, his last film, "The Country Girl," with Grace Kelly and William Holden, was previewed and from here it looks as if Bing and Grace Kelly will be among the Academy Award contenders next March.

His portrayal of the spineless, lying alcoholic is his best. And Grace Kelly as his loyal, embittered wife is superb. Modestly, Bing gives the credit for his performance to director George Seaton.

Bing Hope, after the reactions to the TV-show he filmed in London with Maurice Chevalier and Bee Lillie: "Some people don't have much to say but you have to listen a long time to find it out."

Some of the Bee Lillie comedy fell flat on American audiences and her "million line," "Not bloody likely," was a dud. As for Maurice Chevalier, he's back in town, continuing his tour of the United States, and is appearing with Bee Lillie in "The Conqueror."

After arriving full of high hopes, Bee Lillie is down to a million line, "Leave Variety, the American comedian, for me," and is appearing with Bee Lillie in "The Conqueror."

Still a mystery is what Howard Hughes will do when he's ready to add an extra run onto his team's mounting score. "He had three million boundaries."

At the moment, he's got 1,100 boundaries, and he's got 1,100 boundaries.

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HKCC And Army Play To A Draw

Fighting the clock to wrest the game from the Hong Kong Cricket Club, the Army were only 16 runs behind the Cricket Club's score when stumps were drawn at Chater Road yesterday to end their friendly cricket encounter in a draw.

A fine century was scored by C. J. B. Leader for the Cricket Club, and when his team declared at 210 for four, his personal contribution was 108 runs in 170 minutes. His score included 16 boundaries.

A grand Army partnership of Withall and Neville brought Army within striking distance of the Club's score in their second wicket stand, which realised 119 runs in 56 minutes. His score included 16 boundaries.

Withall, who hit up 86 in a little under two hours, was run out in the closing stages of the game in an attempt to add an extra run onto his team's mounting score. "He had three million boundaries."

Still a mystery is what Howard Hughes will do when he's ready to add an extra run onto his team's mounting score. "He had three million boundaries."

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"CANTON"	—	10th Jan., 1955
"CHUSAN"	—	10th Jan., 1955
"CARTHAGE"	8th Jan., 1955	8th Feb., 1955
"CORFU"	2nd Feb., 1955	7th Mar., 1955
Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore		
Leaves Hongkong Due London		
"CANTON"	14th Jan., 1955	14th Feb., 1955
"CHUSAN"	2nd Feb., 1955	2nd March, 1955
"CARTHAGE"	11th Mar., 1955	14th March, 1955
"CORFU"	11th Mar., 1955	11th April, 1955
Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London		

* Also calls Marseilles.

FREIGHT SERVICE

"SOU'DAN"	Leads 5/6th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg
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	sails 10th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Karachi & Kuwait
"ORDIA"	due 7th Jan.	from Japan

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 Sails Jan. 1 for Kobe & Yokohama.

THAI
 Arrives Jan. 9 from Japan.
 Sails Jan. 10 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Basrah, Kuwait & Bahrain.

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INDO-CHINA FRANCE AGREEMENT

Paris, Dec. 27.

Agreement requiring future
relations between France and
the Associated States of Indo-
China will be signed here on
Wednesday morning by the Minister
of Associated States un-
named here tonight.

Delegations from Vietnam,
Cambodia and Laos have spent
months in Paris working out
with French officials the detail-
ed consequences of the indepen-
dence of the three Indo-Chinese
States.

A last meeting of heads of
delegations today settled the
last outstanding points.—Reuter.

Police Cameras

Stolen

Wellington, N.Z., Dec. 27.
Among cameras allegedly
stolen from a recent shipment
brought here from Western
Germany were two destined
for the Criminal Registration
Branch of the New Zealand
Police Force.

The cameras were among
£1,800 sterling worth that had
been pilfered from three ship-
ments to a Wellington firm
from suppliers in Western
Germany.—China Mail Special.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

11. "TAIPING"

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MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

Jap Economy Should Be Strengthened

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.

A real danger existed
that Japan might be lost to
the free world unless the
United States took the lead
in strengthening the faltering
Japanese economy, Dr
Eugene Carson Blake, President
of the National Council of Churches,
declared here today on his
return from a visit to Japan.

"The American electorate
must ask its leaders what
they intended to do for
Japan's sagging economy,"
Mr. Blake said in an interview.

At the same time, she should
remain on the defensive with
compulsory military service and
a maximum air force of 400
combat planes, the commission
recommended.

Economics should be made by
reducing the number of certain
training courses and replacement
crews for the air force, saving
in clothing and topography among other measures.

The Federal Military Department
had estimated that the basic
costs of Switzerland's armed
neutrality policy should be
600 million francs (about
£49,200,000) a year. But the
commission suggested that this
should be reduced by more than
40 million francs to 500 million
francs. In addition up to 100
million francs (nearly £8,200,000)
could be added annually for
buying new armaments, the
commission considered.

Total defense spending for
1954 was budgeted at 703
million francs (nearly £61,700,000).—Reuter.

No Subsidy For Yogi Establishments

New Delhi, Dec. 27.

Sixty-two members of India's
Parliament, including the
Deputy Speaker, have had training
in yogi, according to a private
member, Mr. Keshava Iengar.

Another member, Mr. Ram-
rajan Singh, asked in Parliament
whether the Indian Government
would give financial assistance
to institutions which taught yogi
exercises.

He was told the Government
was giving grants for research
but not for the practice of yogi.

China Mail Special.

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



By Mik

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EVEN MORE
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THAN I AM

I'LL
SAY
HE
IS--

LOOK--HE'S
STILL WORKING
AT HIS
HOLIDAY
JOB

YOU'RE THE MOST
ABSENT-MINDED
BOY I KNOW,
EDDIE!

IT
RUNS
IN
MY
FAMILY

?

SANTA

JOHNNY HAZARD

INTO THE GRAND CANAL
HALF A MILE DOWN IS THE
RIALTO BRIDGE... WHERE
THE BOAT RACE STARTS!

OKAY... I'M
ENTERING A
LITTLE RACE
OF MY OWN!

I CAN RUN
FASTER THAN
Hazard. CAN YOU? ALL I HAVE
TO DO IS BEND HIM OVER... THEN
KICK HIM OVER!

DO SOMETHING,
SIGNER! THEY STOLE
MY GONDOLA... HOW CAN
I ENTER THE REGATTA
WITHOUT IT?

THAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM! JUST
TELL ME WHERE
DOES THIS CANAL
LEAD TO?

?

?

FRANK BOBBINS

?

?

?

FRANK BOBBINS

?

<p

Wartime Heroes Recount Their Adventures

Today, nearly ten years after the end of World War II, some of the most popular books published are those written by wartime heroes, or recounting the adventures of wartime heroes.

Among those offered recently for whiling away dark winter hours in an armchair beside the fire are, in the Southern Hemisphere, perhaps, for reading on a sun-drenched beach, a biography of "Cheshire, V.C." by Russell Braddon (published by Evans Brothers, London—12s 6d).

When Cheshire, or to give him his full title, Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, was awarded the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest military decoration, his citation stated: "He has a reputation second to none in Bomber Command."

Here is the story of a man who led some of the most daring bombing raids over Europe during World War II—and who not only dropped his bombs accurately but remained over the target until he could report the damage in detail.

This was a man who flew so low over enemy territory on occasions that the enemy guns actually fired down on him.

This man, too, with Dr (now Sir) William Penny, witnessed the bombing of Nagasaki with the first atom to be used in warfare—and "in that split second of nuclear fission... Cheshire, the supremely efficient man of war, the much decorated hero of one hundred mortal raids against the enemy, became Cheshire, crusader for peace."

Group Captain Cheshire's life of peace really began when, after a breakdown in health and a period roughing it in a Canadian lumber camp, he received into his home, Le Court, one Arthur Dykes, an old man suffering from incurable cancer.

He nursed him and looked after him, seeking to make the old man's last days as comfortable and happy as possible. Presently, the old man was joined by an old woman, and later still by many others.

In the meantime, Arthur died, leaving behind him a book by a former well-known Anglican clergyman, now a Catholic priest: "One Lord, One Faith," by Father Vernon Johnson. Cheshire, knowing that Arthur had read and re-read it, picked it up after his death and started to read it himself.

That book changed his whole life.

In due course, he was received into the Catholic Church himself, and devoted his life from then on to spreading his faith as well as to working for the sick and lonely.

His work at Le Court progressed. Presently, it became a home for the young chronic sick suffering from various forms of paralysis.

"To young men and women doomed to lifelong inactivity in sterile hospital wards... Le Court suddenly offered what had never been possible before—the combination of medical treatment, a home of their own, and the possibility of helping in the running and maintenance of that home," writes Mr. Braddon.

Cheshire himself was struck down with tuberculosis and during two years in hospital had four operations from which he still has not recovered.

But his work went on. More homes were opened—there are now four—and Trust funds were formed to run them.

From his hospital bed, Cheshire began a crusade for Christianity. With the help of a non-Catholic who was well and a non-Catholic who shared with him the doubtful honour of being the sanatorium's oldest inhabitant, he organised his bed with tabernacles of the Gospel story—the Christmas Crib, a representation of Christ in the Tomb.

In the last eighteen months alone, still from his bed, he has organised three such busts, a course in theology, a new Home for the dying (another Home was being negotiated for at the time Mr. Braddon was writing) and an air-lift of the sick to Lourdes.

"In the next eighteen months," Mr. Braddon adds, "doubtless there will be even more. And in the next eighteen years the whole of Britain will probably

be incorporated in the Cheshire Foundation!"

As for Cheshire, today "his only possessions are his tape recorders, his few religious books, a sports jacket and slacks and Sister Thophilin's bed-jacket. He is not even remotely interested in wealth or chattels and if ever he earns or is given any money he at once hands it over to his Trustees or spends it on a 90-year-old lady on the principle that 'their need is greater than mine.'

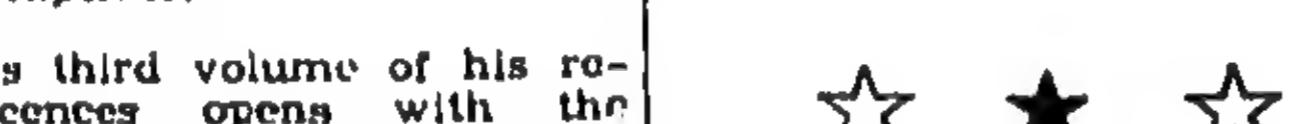
"So there is your most decorated hero of the war today," Mr. Braddon concludes. "An ordinary man in appearance with an extraordinarily fertile brain. An intensely religious man with a great power to attract towards good things even those who are intensely irreligious. A devout man who retains an earthy sense of honour and a delightful—even, occasionally, a mad—sense of fun. A total invalid for two years who, in that two years, has done more work than any dozen of us less fortunate healthy people put together."



Another outstanding biography, or this time, rather, autobiography, of a wartime hero is "The Spirit in the Cage", the third instalment of Peter Churchill's own account of his odyssey as a wartime agent in occupied France.

For long months, Churchill, aided by Odette, carried out his work successfully, often in danger but always escaping his pursuers in the nick of time.

Then came the day, in April 1943, which brought his fourth war mission to France in the Resistance to an end. Betrayed, he was captured by the Germans and taken to Fresnes prison where the Nazis kept such captives.



This third volume of his reminiscences opens with the door of the prison cell slamming behind him "and the grating screech of a rusty bolt put a full stop to my activities as a subversive."

It paints a moving picture of the author's life from that moment until, after being moved to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp and Flossenbürg Concentration Camp, he was finally rescued from a camp in the Italian Tyrol by a small group of Americans who liberated him and the other members of a convoy of 132 "prominent" men of 22 nationalities. In that convoy his fellow prisoners included Marshal Papagos, now Prime Minister of Greece; Pastor Martin Niemoller, the well-known anti-Nazi German pastor; M. Leon Blum, the French Socialist leader and former Prime Minister; and Garibaldi's grandson.

He escaped from his prison camp in northern England after the German surrender, reached Ireland, worked on a farm for almost a year and finally joined the Royal Air Force to escape arrest and deportation to Holland.

The story of Leo Daldorup is told by John Murdoch and the book is published by Hodder & Stoughton (12s 6d).

In 1953, the Russians suddenly released Private Frank Kelly and handed him over to the British military authorities in East Berlin.

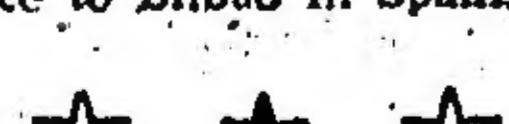
He had been their prisoner for nearly eight years and had been in the notorious Vladimir Prison, called the prison of Lost Men, for six of them.

His adventures began in September 1944 when, a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps, he was dropped by parachute at Arnhem. He spent the rest of the war in Stalingrad until his liberation by the Russians in April 1945.

"The Spirit in the Cage" is published by Hodder & Stoughton Ltd., London (12s 6d).

From the same publishing house come two other books dealing with the resistance in the occupied territories.

"Little Cyclone" by Airey Neave (12s 6d) is the story of an escape route known as the Comet Line which led British and American airmen shot down over occupied territory from Brussels right across France to Bilbao in Spain.



In three years, over 800 airmen and soldiers escaped from prison camps or, shot down, passed safely over this route and returned to England—though not without a toll of lives and liberty among those who risked everything to send them back home to fight another day. "Little Cyclone" was the pseudonym of the girl who led the band of helpers who comprised the Comet Line.

In the last eighteen months alone, still from his bed, he has organised three such busts, a course in theology, a new Home for the dying (another Home was being negotiated for at the time Mr. Braddon was writing) and an air-lift of the sick to Lourdes.

"Evade" by T. D. G. Tear (12s 6d) is again a biographical. Mr. Tear landed in occupied France by parachute just before his crippled bomber crashed into a hillside.

Miraculously, he survived.

After seven years, he was released from that Russian prison

of hands are needed for a hydro-electric project, brings 10,000 charges, passes 10,000 sentences and mobilises ten cramped prison trains to take the needed labour to the chosen site."

He returned to Poland and now, in "Vimish without Tree" (published by Max Parrish & Co., Ltd., 18s), he has told the story of those seven years of horror as "one of those ragged beings of whom crowds were driven through Russian towns at night so as not to offend the eyes of Soviet citizens already hardened to so many horrors."



A book mainly on an enemy's exploits is "Commando Extraordinary" by Charles Foley (published by Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., London, 15s). The hero is Otto Skorzeny, whose exploits included snatching Mussolini from prison after his capture by the Allies, the removal of Admiral Horthy, the Hungarian Regent, from the fastness of Budapest Castle and the activities of the "disguised brigade" behind the American lines.

Mr. Foley also reveals much that is not generally known about the British SAS (Special Air Services) which put into action the unorthodox ideas of their commander, Colonel David Stirling.

And at the end of a book packed with thrills as no fiction thriller would be, Mr. Foley puts forward a stirring plea for the development of training in such activities, training under a man with foresight and imagination who would "save soldiers from rehearsing for the last world war instead of for the next." For, as the author says, "who could be sure, if Russia struck, that the first battle, which we contrive always to lose, would not also be the last?"



Wat from the enemy's point of view is the subject of "The Other Side Up," the story of Leo Daldorup, an ambitious 18-year-old Dutchman who joined the Nazis in the east and the Russians in the west and was finally taken prisoner.

He escaped from his prison camp in northern England after the German surrender, reached Ireland, worked on a farm for almost a year and finally joined the Royal Air Force to escape arrest and deportation to Holland.

The story of Leo Daldorup is told by John Murdoch and the book is published by Hodder & Stoughton (12s 6d).

In 1953, the Russians suddenly released Private Frank Kelly and handed him over to the British military authorities in East Berlin.

He had been their prisoner for nearly eight years and had been in the notorious Vladimir Prison, called the prison of Lost Men, for six of them.

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From the same publishing house come two other books dealing with the resistance in the occupied territories.

"Little Cyclone" by Airey Neave (12s 6d) is the story of an escape route known as the Comet Line which led British and American airmen shot down over occupied territory from Brussels right across France to Bilbao in Spain.

Finally, there is a well-known incredible story of life as a prisoner of war in North Korea.

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From his hospital bed, Cheshire began a crusade for Christianity. With the help of a non-Catholic who was well and a non-Catholic who shared with him the doubtful honour of being the sanatorium's oldest inhabitant, he organised his bed with tabernacles of the Gospel story—the Christmas Crib, a representation of Christ in the Tomb.

In the last eighteen months alone, still from his bed, he has organised three such busts, a course in theology, a new Home for the dying (another Home was being negotiated for at the time Mr. Braddon was writing) and an air-lift of the sick to Lourdes.

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TRADE AND COMMERCE SECTION

AMERICAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Unsatisfactory

Year But

Should Pick Up ANNUAL REVIEW

By Harry W. Frantz

Washington, Dec. 27. The United States textile industry had a generally unsatisfactory year in 1954, but signs of a pick-up in the fourth quarter stirred hopes of better conditions in 1955.

The entire industry needs a stimulus to production volume, which in turn, awaits general economic prosperity and maximum employment.

United States wool consumption was at a low level during much of the year, indices for total textile-mill production were below 1953, and total imports of fibres and textile products were smaller.

United States total exports of period of previous year. Exports of fibres plus manufactured textiles gained, mainly because of Government credit assistance in the exportation of raw cotton.

The steady encroachment of man-made synthetic textiles against products made from natural fibres continued to pre-occupy the entire industry.

Silk continued an uphill post-war fight for a better position in textiles production, but was handicapped by low prices of competitive products.

BASIC STATISTICS

Some of the basic statistics of the United States textile industry and commerce as last reported are as follows:

The index for United States production of all textile mill products in October was 85 per cent of the average 1947-49 production base of 100 per cent. This was a recovery from low of 82 per cent in June, 1954, but was still below the index of 101 in October, 1953.

The October, 1954 index for cotton and synthetic fabrics production was 90 compared to a low of 85 in July and an October, 1953 index of 101.

United States total production of cotton broad-woven goods in the quarter July-September, 1954, was 2,304,482,000 linear yards compared to 2,453,658,000 in the previous quarter, and 2,424,125,000 in the third quarter of 1953.

The United States production of broad-woven fabrics from all synthetic fibres and silk in July-September, 1954, totalled 539,676,000 yards, compared to 625,722,000 in the previous quarter, and 580,802,000 in the third quarter of 1953.

Production of fabrics from silk and synthetic fibres other than rayon, acetate and nylon was 49,769,000 in the second quarter of 1954 and 84,838,000 in the third quarter of 1953.

United States imports of textile fibres and manufactures in January-August period of 1954 totalled \$524,200,000 compared to \$524,400,000 in the period of the previous year.

IMPORTS

These total imports included the following:

Cotton manufactures, \$45,800,000 in eight months of 1954 against \$46,400,000 in the same period of 1953.

United States imports of textile fibres and manufactures in January-August period of 1954 totalled \$524,200,000 compared to \$524,400,000 in the period of the previous year.

United States imports of all textile fibres and manufactures in January-August period of 1954 totalled \$524,200,000 compared to \$524,400,000 in the period of the previous year.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S
CASEBOOK

The twin story

THE cut-and-thrust of Christmas shopping was in full swing in the store. A confusion of customers clustered round each corner and the bells of cash-registers rang out joyful jingling music.

A manager surveyed the scene and found what he saw, good. Then his eye was caught by something that pleased him less. He saw two shrimp-sized boys slide through the crowd about one counter, help themselves to a fountain pen apiece, then slip away.

The manager followed the boys to the Christmas card department and watched them select there, half a dozen cards. That seemed to complete their business in the store, for they headed for the street door.

ORPHANS?

IN the street, the manager challenged the boys. He took them back to his office and sent for the police.

"What's your name?" the policeman asked the larger boy. "Smith," the two replied in unison.

"We're brothers," the bigger boy explained. "I'm Fred, he's Ron."

"Where's your home?" the policeman asked.

"Got no home," said Fred.

"Where do your parents live, then?"

"Got no parents," Ron said, "Orphans."

Then they told their story, of their mother and their father dying within months of each other, earlier in the year, leaving them alone in the world.

THE KIND LADY

"SO we come away from Guernsey, where our home was," Fred said. "There was a kind lady what we met when she was on holiday." Ron added. "She lived in London, and she said we could stay with her if we was ever here, so we came, and we did for a week or two. Got no one else nowhere, see, master."

The policeman and the manager looked with pity at the two boys, and the trifles they had stolen.

"You'd better come along to the station," the policeman said.

WORKING

AT Great Marlborough Street court next morning, the two boys pleaded guilty to their thefts. Ron, as he was 16, stood before the dock, Fred at 15, older, qualified to stand in it.

"They tell me they've both been in a job up to the time of their arrest," a policeman told Mr Paul Bennett, QC, the magistrate, "and that they have been living in lodging-houses."

Neither Fred nor Ron had anything more to say. Their case was remanded for a week, so that the police and Mr Charles Morgan, the probation officer, could find out more about them.

When next they were brought to court, they were both shown into the space before the dock. It had been discovered that they were both 10 years old.

DISCREPANCIES

MR MORGAN went into the witness-box to point out one or two other discrepancies in their story. "Their name is not Smith," he said. "They are not brothers, just friends, and their parents are not dead."

"They do come from Guernsey, and they have been working in London. But they shouldn't have been, for both are absences from a boy's battalion in the Army."

An Army officer rose to confirm the fact. "You'd better have them back," the magistrate said to the officer.

"Very good, sir," the officer answered. "And the looks that he gave the boys as he led them out, and the looks that they returned as they left the court room, suggested that an interesting chapter in the saga of Ron and Fred was about to open in court.

Train Crash: 6 Killed
Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 27.
Six people were killed and at least 40 others injured today when a Brazil Central Railway passenger train rammed a stationary train filled with holiday travellers near the town of Miguel Pereira, Rio de Janeiro State.—United Press

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Thailand Concerned Over Vietnamese Refugees In The North

Bangkok, Dec. 27.

The greatest threat to Thailand's security from the Communists today lies in a large group of refugees from the Indo-China war.

Some Thai and American officials have used the term "explosive" to describe the problem of an estimated 50,000 Vietnam refugees residing in the north-eastern provinces of Thailand.

What should be done with the refugees from the fighting in Vietnam, and to a lesser extent in Laos, and the irritations caused by their presence on Thailand land will be the immediate top-priority job for the newly appointed United States Ambassador, Mr John Peurifoy.

Thailand wants to get rid of the Vietnamese quickly for a number of reasons, one being that they are encroaching and using land that could be using.

Another is that they are believed to be predominantly loyal to the Vietnamese and as such provide a convenient base for Communist infiltration and agitation.

Another threat to Thailand's security lies northward, across the Laos border in the Chinese province of Yunnan and the newly created Thai autonomous state.

There are an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 Thais in Yunnan, of the same racial strain as the Thais of north-west Laos, North Thailand and the Shan States in Burma.

Authorities in Bangkok feel it is the Communists' long range strategy to build up the idea of a "Greater Thai State" and use it as an operating base against Thailand and possibly Burma.

The Communist figurehead for the Thai autonomous State is Pridi Panomyong, a former

Premier and influential politician who fled to Singapore in 1947 after a coup d'état in Bangkok and then disappeared behind the Bamboo Curtain.

OBJECT TO FRENCH
The overwhelming majority of the Vietnamese (about 80 per cent according to Government spokesman) stated in a recent questionnaire that they would not go to South Vietnam because of their objection to French control. They have shown little or no inclination, however, to return to North Vietnam and Communist control.

Thailand's Prime Minister Field Marshal Phibun Pibul Songgram, said recently he would use force if necessary to get the Vietnamese out of his country. He did not say where he would "force" them to or when he would start.

Although Thailand and Yunnan do not have a common border, infiltration would be easy through the use of the broad Mekong River which comes down from Yunnan, separates Burma and Laos and then forms the north-eastern boundary of Thailand.

A third security threat (which officials think is the least important) is the Communists who operate along the Thai-Malaya border. These terrorists are mostly of the Malayan Communist Party who move across the border when British pressure on them becomes too great. Recent cooperative efforts by British and Thai security forces have reduced the Communist activities in the sector considerably.

Official and unconfirmed reports that the Communists plan to expand their activities in this area to create a diversion to the main efforts in the North circulate from time to time through Bangkok.

There have also been unconfirmed reports that Communist (Russian) submarines have landed agents and supplies at secluded spots on the peninsula near the Thai-Malaya border.—United Press.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for registered articles posted by G.P.O. Headquarters. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times, can be ascertained by inquiring at the local post office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Postmarks and delivery marks can be ascertained by inquiry at any post office.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28
By Air
Indo-China, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, U.S.A., & Canada, 6 p.m.
By Surface

Wednesday, December 29
By Air
Indo-China, 8 a.m.
Thailand, 9 a.m.
Formosa, Japan, Korea, Canada, 2 p.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and Ceylon, 6 p.m.
Sweden, 6 p.m.
By Surface

Thursday, December 30
By Air
Thailand, 8 a.m.
Malaya, 9 a.m.
Formosa, Japan, Korea, Canada, 2 p.m.
Thailand, 6 p.m.
By Surface

Washington, Dec. 27
Both British and United States officials today disclaimed knowledge of a possible Washington conference between Sir Winston Churchill and President Eisenhowe in January.

The officials were commanding the reporters, which said that Sir Winston was planning to go to Washington for a visit in January.

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